NEWSLETTER No 2.

sustainable apprentices

Training the workforce of the future to apply the SDGs in SMEs through Work-Based Learning in Apprenticeship programmes

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An innovative vocational education and training programme to support the implementation of the SDGs in SMEs through apprenticeship programmes

The European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) is a framework designed by the European Union (EU) to facilitate the recognition, transfer, and accumulation of learning outcomes achieved in formal, non-formal, and informal contexts.

An ECVET curriculum is a vocational education and training (VET) programme that has been designed and developed using the ECVET framework. It specifies the competencies, skills, and knowledge that learners are expected to acquire and how these will be assessed and recognised through the award of ECVET credits.

The curriculum is organised in units of learning outcomes, each of which is associated with a certain number of ECVET credits that represent the workload required to achieve the specified learning outcomes. The credits are transferable, which means that they can be recognised and accumulated in different VET programmes across EU countries.

The ECVET curriculum provides a flexible and transparent way of designing, delivering, and assessing VET programmes, which supports mobility and lifelong learning. It also facilitates the recognition of VET qualifications across EU countries, which can increase the employability of VET learners and promote the mobility of skilled workers across the EU.

THE SUSTAINABLE APPRENTICES ECVET CURRICULUM TO IMPLEMENT THE SDGs IN SMEs THROUGH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMMES.

In our ongoing mission to support Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) through Apprenticeship programs, we are excited to share the latest updates on our project's Educational Program in the form of the "ECVET Curriculum". This initiative is geared towards enhancing the capabilities of Vocational Education and Training (VET) educators and in-company trainers.

In this newsletter you will find a glimpse into what we have accomplished and what lies ahead.

The creation of the ECVET Curriculum on supporting Apprenticeship programmes to implement the SDGs in SMEs (PR1)

The project purpose and target audience

The ECVET Curriculum aims to empower VET educators and in-company trainers. It was designed to boost their profiles and equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to implement the SDGs in SMEs. By identifying key competencies and creating a tailored Learning Program, we are addressing the unique needs of our target users.
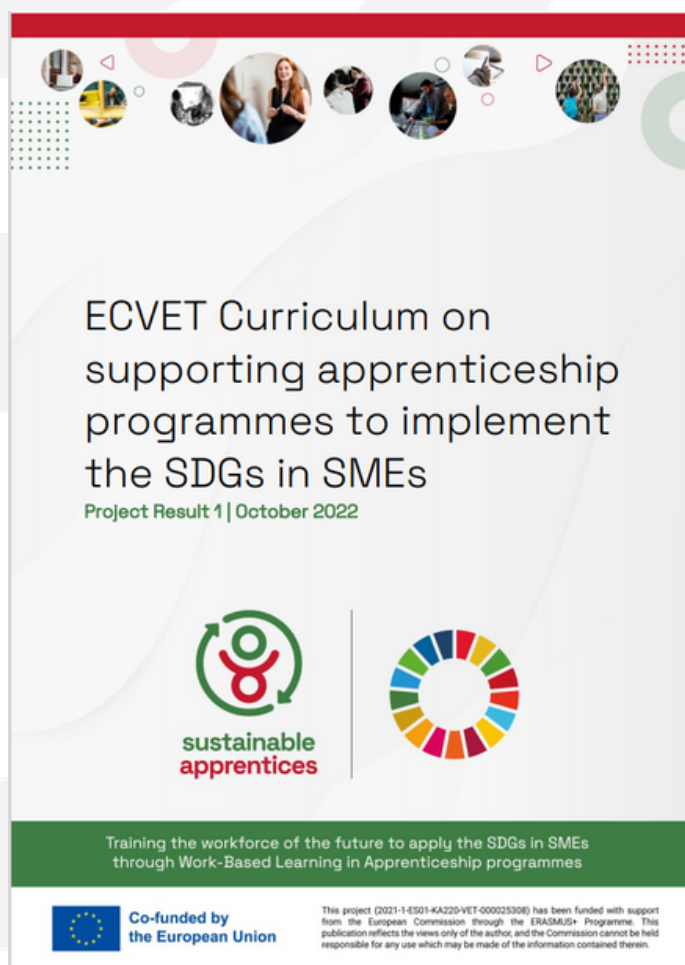

ECVET Curriculum contains key knowledge

The development of this project result involved several crucial components, including:

- Creating a Theoretical Framework based on the analysis of the European Qualification Framework (EQF) and National Qualification Frameworks (NQF).
- Identifying a Competence Framework tailored to our target audience.
- Listing the Learning Units required for the ECVET Curriculum.
- Developing Learning Outcomes, encompassing Knowledge, Skills, Responsibility, and Autonomy.

What sets our project apart is the introduction of the learning outcomes approach, coupled with the use of EQF and ECVET methodologies and tools. The ECVET Curriculum aligns with the assigned EQF level, ensuring clarity and consistency. It comprises Learning Units, Learning Outcomes, and allocated Learning Hours (ECVET points), covering various aspects of learning, including contact hours, pragmatic hours, self-study, and assessment.

Our ECVET Curriculum is designed to have a profound impact. It shall serve as a vital tool for VET educators and in-company trainers, facilitating the transfer and recognition of Learning Outcomes in SDG implementation through Apprenticeship programs. Furthermore, it lays the foundation for future recognition, validation, and certification of this profile. This document also paves the way for the development of an Online Platform of Open Learning Materials.

How it was created

InnoQuality Systems presented a grid and facilitated the exchange of ideas which competences should be part of the curriculum. Receiving the suggestions five core topics were identified: Sustainability, Strategic Planning, SDGs in SME, Apprenticeship and Training. These topics were to be covered among 6 units. Since SDGs play a very prominent role in this project, two of these units were dedicated to this. Finally partners agreed on defining it according to EQF level 4 and each unit to cover 25 hours of training.

Final statement

The Sustainable Apprenticeship partners are very proud of having created an ECVET Curriculum that truly empowers VET educators and in-company trainers for SDG implementation in SMEs through Apprenticeship programs. It's based on a Theoretical Framework, Competence Framework, Learning Units, and Learning Outcomes, with a focus on EQF and ECVET methodologies. This tool will make a significant impact, facilitating Learning Outcomes recognition and certification. It also sets the stage for an Online Platform of Open Learning Materials. Our journey towards sustainability continues through collaboration and innovation.

Lukas Brunbauer
Director INQS

The conceptual and didactical core of Sustainable Apprentices (PR2)

Conceptual and Didactical Core refers to the fundamental principles and concepts that underpin the design and delivery of a particular educational program or training course.

It provides a theoretical framework that informs the program's design and content, including its aims, objectives, and learning outcomes. It defines the key concepts and principles that learners are expected to understand and apply through the program, and it provides a rationale for the program's structure and organisation.

The Didactical Core, on the other hand, refers to the specific teaching and learning methods, strategies, and tools that are used to achieve the program's learning outcomes. It outlines the pedagogical approach, including the instructional design, assessment methods, and teaching strategies that will be used to support learners in achieving the programme's aims and objectives.

Together, the Conceptual and Didactical Core provide a clear and coherent framework for the design and delivery of the training programme, ensuring that it is based on sound theoretical principles and that it is aligned with the specific learning needs and contexts of the target learners. This approach aims to ensure the quality and effectiveness of the training course and maximise its impact on learners.

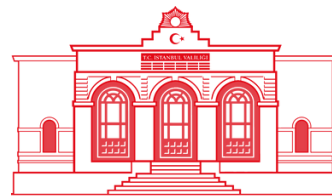You can access and download the Sustainable Apprentices CDC by visiting our Learning Platform.

Conceptual and didactical core to implement the SDGs in SMEs through apprenticeship programmes.

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